

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION EUR-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-10 NSCE-00 PM-03 L-02 SPC-01

SAM-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DODE-00 NEA-07

DRC-01 /061 W

----- 061479

R 141330Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7588

INFO AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

S E C R E T SOFIA 0210

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: NATO, PFOR

SUBJECT: CONSULTATIONS BY US MISSIONS OVERSEAS WITH REPRESENTA-
TIVES OF ALLIANCE NATIONS

REF: A. NATO 282; B. MOSCOW 1010; STATE 028873

1. THERE HAVE BEEN REGULAR MONTHLY CHIEFS-OF-MISSION
NATO LUNCHEONS HELD IN SOFIA SINCE AT LEAST 1971 AND
MOST PROBABLY WELL BEFORE THAT. HOSTING IS ROTATED
BY FIXED SCHEDULE. SINCE MY ARRIVAL HERE IN AUGUST,
NO MEETING HAS BEEN HELD IN ANY SECURE ROOM ALTHOUGH
UNDERSTAND SUCH MEETINGS HAVE BEEN HELD IN PAST.

2. GOB IS WELL AWARE OF MEETINGS SINCE ALL CHIEFS-OF-
MISSION ARRIVE WITH FLAGS FLYING AND CHAUFFEURS AT THE
SECRET

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WHEEL. GOB CERTAINLY HAS NO OBJECTION, IN FACT, MIGHT

FIND IT VERY CONVENIENT.

3. MEETINGS ARE OF VALUE NOT SO MUCH FOR INFORMATION EXCHANGED ALTHOUGH THIS USEFUL AT TIMES, BUT FOR CONTINUATION OF SPIRIT OF UNITY AND COMMON INTEREST ATMOSPHERE. DOES PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY TO WORK OUT COMMON POSITION ON LOCAL ISSUES, I.E. HOUSING, VISA CASES, TOURISM, WELFARE AND WHEREABOUTS, APPROACHES TO SERVICE BUREAU OR PROTOCOL, ETC. ALTHOUGH GENERAL WORLD PROBLEMS ARE DISCUSSED AND POSITIONS TAKEN, ALL MEMBERS WELL AWARE SOFIA NOT NAVAL OF EARTH AND OUR OPINION RE THESE GOLOBAL AFFAIRS OF LITTLE IMPORT. DISCUSSIONS CENTER ON BULGARIAN, WARSAW PACT AND BALKAN DEVELOPMENTS. THIS EXCHANGE OF IDEAS, INFORMATION AND LOCAL GOSSIP IS, AT TIMES, MOST USEFUL AND INFORMATIVE. ATTENDANCE IS 100 PERCENT SINCE CHARGE'S ARE SENT IF AMBASSADORS ARE OUT OF TOWN OR OTHERWISE UNABLE TO ATTEND. THE MEETINGS ARE CONGENIAL AFFAIRS WHICH ARE LOOKED FORWARD TO WITH REASONABLE ENTHUSIASM, PARTICULARLY BY THOSE WHO DO NOT ATTEND THE EC MONTHLY MEETING.

4. FYI: EC MONTHLY MEETING KEPT VERY QUIET BY CLUB. BUTLERS ERROR CAUSED ME TO STUMBLE INTO EC MEETING. FOLLOWING THIS HUMOROUS EPISODE, I WAS TOLD BY MY COLLEAGUES OF THEIR REGULAR MEETINGS. CERTAINLY GOB ALSO WELL AWARE THESE CLAMBAKES.
BATJER

SECRET

NNN

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